

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BEIRUT 08876 151655Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NEAE-00 SSO-00 INRE-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00
CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05
PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 IO-13 OMB-01 ACDA-07 /071 W
----- 012922 /47

O 151601Z DEC 76
FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2535
INFO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L BEIRUT 8876

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, MPOL, LE, MARR
SUBJECT: UNCONFIRMED PRESS REPORT OF ASF MOVEMENTS TO SOUTH

1. AL MUHARRIR DEC 15 REPORTED FOLLOWING: "LAST NIGHT, INFORMED SOURCES SAID THAT A SYMBOLIC ARAB SECURITY FORCE (ASF) UNIT SHALL TAKE UP POSITIONS TODAY (DEC 15) IN DEFINED LOCALITIES IN THE SOUTH, ACCORDING TO THE SECURITY PLAN. IT IS SAID THAT THIS FORCE SHALL PARTICIPATE WITH THE LEBANESE FORCE STATIONED IN THE SOUTH TO MAINTAIN THE LOCAL SECURITY AND PROTECT THE BORDER SECTORS." ("LEBANESE FORCE" WOULD MEAN ANY OF THE VARIOUS CHRISTIAN MILITIA ORGANIZATIONS IN THE SOUTH.)
2. WE ARE TOLD BY RANKING MEMBERS OF THE LEBANESE STAFF OF COL AL-HAJJ INVOLVED IN COORDINATING ASF PLANNING THAT THERE IS NO PLAN AT THIS TIME TO ADVANCE SOUTH OF THE LITANI.
3. COMMENT: WE ARE INCLINED TO DISCOUNT THE AL MUHARRIR REPORT BUT ARE REPORTING IT SINCE IT WILL MOST LIKELY BE PICKED UP BY THE ISRAELIS.
HOUGHTON

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NNN

Message Attributes

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